Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

Region: AL/MS/FL

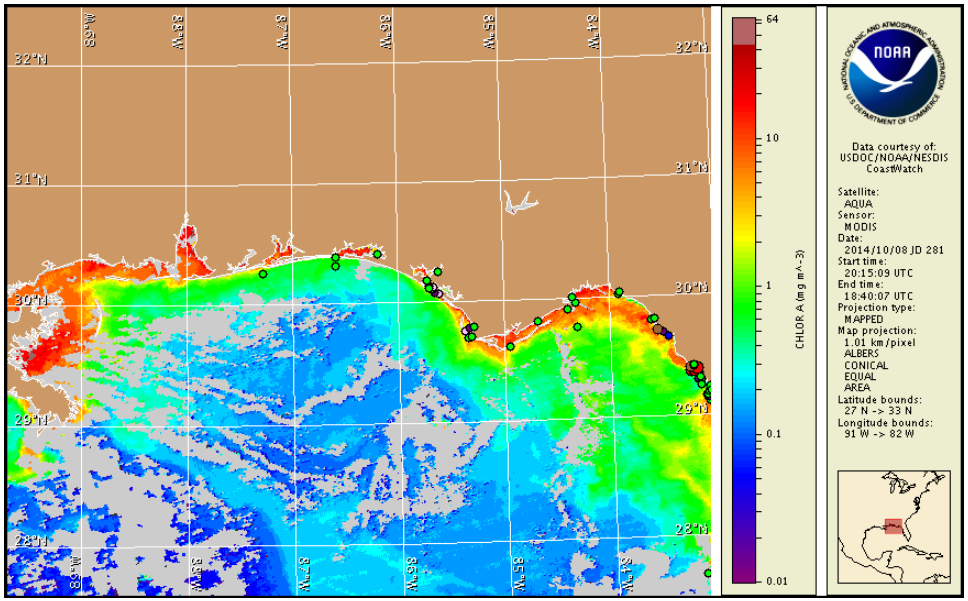
Thursday, 09 October 2014

NOAA National Ocean Service

NOAA Satellite and Information Service

NOAA National Weather Service

Last bulletin: Monday, October 6, 2014



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible *K. brevis* HAB areas shown by red polygon(s), when applicable. Points represent cell concentration sampling data from September 29 to October 8: red (high), orange (medium), yellow (low b), brown (low a), blue (very low b), purple (very low a), pink (present), and green (not present). For a list of sample providers and a key to the cell concentration categories, please see the HAB-OFS bulletin guide:

http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/habfs_bulletin_guide.pdf

Detailed sample information for Florida can be obtained through FWC Fish and Wildlife Research Institute at:

http://myfwc.com/redtidestatus

To see previous bulletins and forecasts for other Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin regions, visit at: http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/bulletins.html

Conditions Report

Not present to high concentrations of *Karenia brevis* (commonly known as Florida red tide) are present along- and offshore portions of northwest and southwest Florida from Bay to Citrus counties. No respiratory irritation is expected alongshore northwest Florida Thursday, October 9 through Tuesday, October 14.

Check http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/beach_conditions.html for recent, local observations.

Analysis

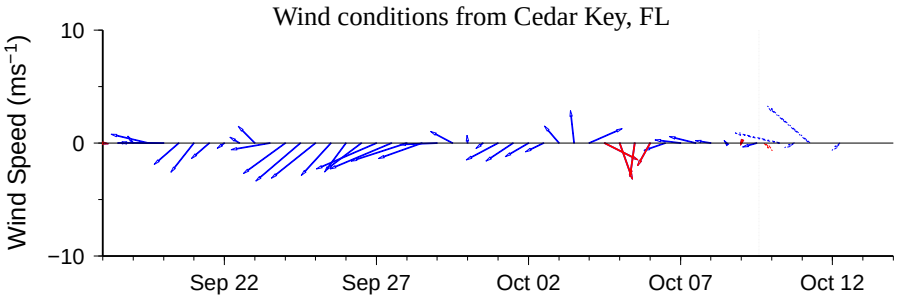
Due to the upcoming federal holiday, the next bulletin will be issued on Tuesday, October 14.

Recent samples collected this week along- and offshore northwest Florida (Escambia to Taylor counties) indicated that *Karenia brevis* concentrations are not present. Samples collected within St. Andrew Bay in Bay County, where previous sampling on 9/30 identified up to 'very low a' *K. brevis* concentrations, indicated that *K. brevis* was not present (FWRI; 10/7). In Taylor County, sampling at the mouth of the Econofina River and the Old Pavillian RV Park at Keaton Beach also indicated *K. brevis* was not present (FWRI; 10/6); *K. brevis* concentrations have not been detected in Taylor County since 9/29 (FWRI). All samples collected along- and offshore and within the bay regions of Okaloosa, Walton, Franklin, and Wakulla counties this week indicated *K. brevis* was not present (FWRI; 10/2-10/6). No respiratory irritation or fish kills associated with *K. brevis* has been reported along the coast of northwest Florida (MML; 10/6-10/9).

In recent MODIS Aqua imagery (10/8, shown left), patches of elevated to very high chlorophyll (2 to >20 μg/L) are visible along- and offshore portions of Taylor County. Patches of elevated to high chlorophyll (2-17 μg/L) are visible along- and offshore northwest Florida from Bay to Wakulla counties. Due to the optical characteristics that are typical in the area, elevated chlorophyll is not necessarily indicative of the presence of *K. brevis*, and some elevated chlorophyll may also be due to the resuspension of benthic chlorophyll and sediments along the coast.

South to east winds forecasted over the next several days may promote northerly transport of *K. brevis* concentrations.

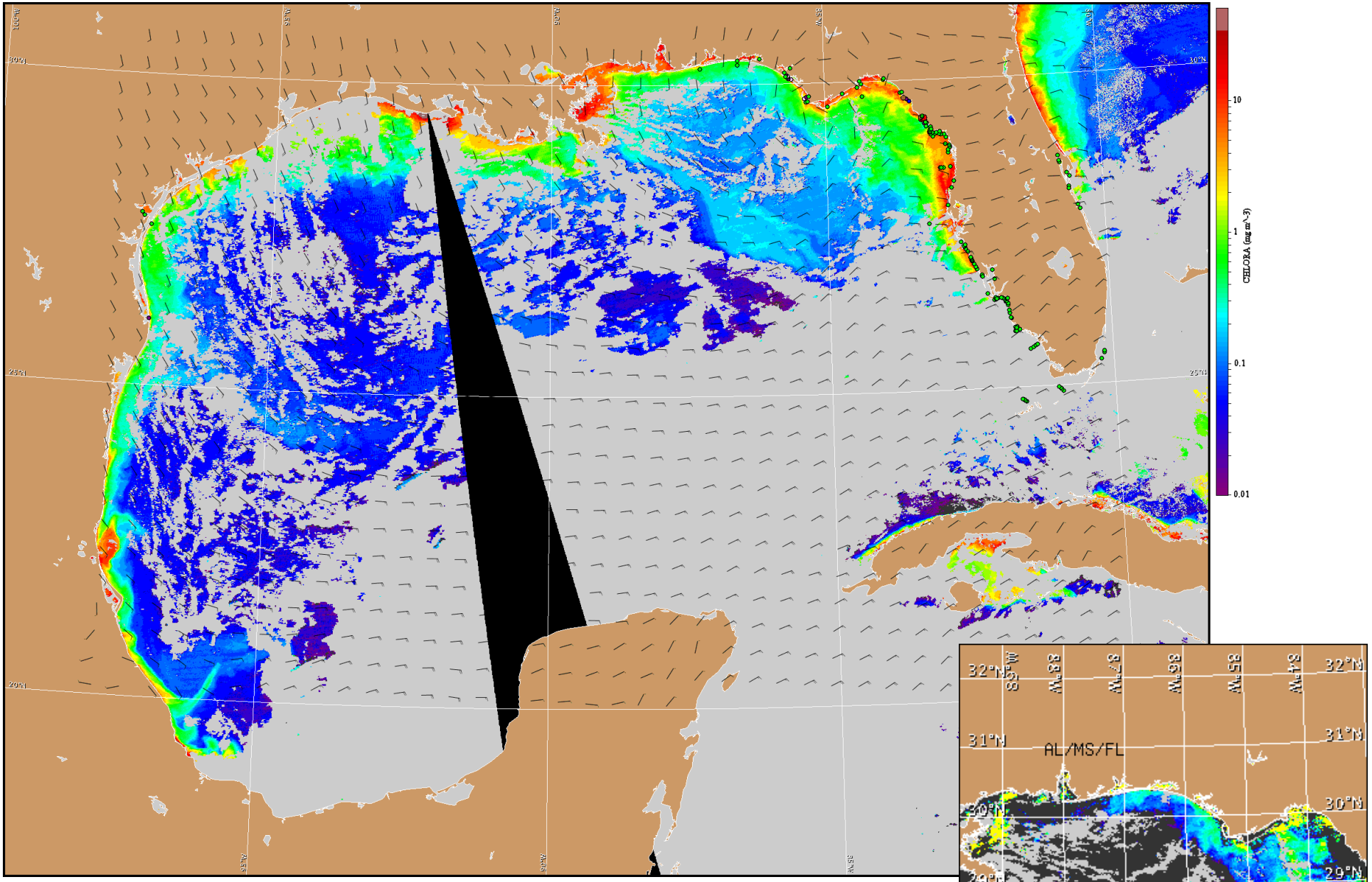
Davis, Derner



Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from buoy measurements. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts. Wind observation and forecast data provided by NOAA's National Weather Service (NWS).

Wind Analysis

Okaloosa to Taylor counties: East to south winds (5-10kn, 3-5m/s) today through Sunday increasing to 10-15kn (5-8m/s) Sunday night and Monday.



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for October 10, 2014 06Z with points representing cell concentration sampling data from September 29 to October 8: red (high), orange (medium), yellow (low b), brown (low a), blue (very low b), purple (very low a), pink (present), and green (not present). For a list of sample providers and a key to the cell concentration categories, please see the HAB-OFS bulletin guide:
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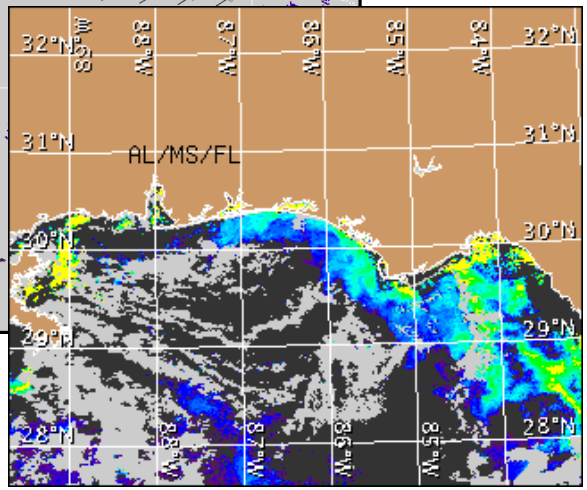

Verified and suspected HAB areas shown in red. Other areas of high chlorophyll concentration shown in yellow (see p. 1 analysis for interpretation).